

PATENT
IBM Docket No. JP920000323US1

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 remain in the application, although claims 1-4 and 19-21 are withdrawn from prosecution.

The purpose of the claim amendments is to renumber the claims as per the Examiner's changes, shorten the paragraph format so that all claims fit on a single page, and to indicate election status of the restriction requirement imposed by the Official Action. By these amendments, Applicants assert that the scope of the affected claims have not been narrowed in any respect.

Note that of the withdrawn claims, 1-4 and 19-21, claims 19-21 show a status identifier of "withdrawn" even though the claims are also "currently amended" as specified above. Current practice allows only one status identifier and "withdrawn" appears to be the most appropriate choice at the present time.

Response to Restriction

Applicants elect the claims of Group II, which include claims 5-21, without traverse.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carlos Munoz-Bustamante
Reg. No. 51,349

Customer No. 25299
(919)254-2587
FAX: 919-254-2649
EMAIL: cbustama@us.ibm.com